

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/642,331

Examiner

Pritham Prabhakher

Applicant(s)

SILVERBROOK ET AL.

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 05/23/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 8, 10-17, 19, 20, 22-29, 31, 32 and 34-40.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>04/17/2007</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-6,8,10-17,19-20,22-29,31-32 and 34-40 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

*In regard to independent **Claim 1**, the closest prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, "a camera for creating and displaying a manipulated image, the camera comprising: (a) image capture means configured to capture a real image and convert it to captured image data; (b) input means configured to receive input image data from a source other than the camera; (c) image manipulation means configured to receive the input image data from the input means and manipulate it to form a manipulated image; (d) output means configured to receive the manipulated image from the image manipulation means and to output the manipulated image from the camera; and (e) display means configured to receive the manipulated image from the image manipulation means and to display the manipulated image; (f) a storage-device reader configured to read image manipulation instructions stored on a manipulation-instruction storage-device, wherein the manipulation-instruction storage-device comprises a card having a surface, upon which is printed at least one image manipulation instruction in encoded form".*

Regarding **Claims 2-6,8,10 and 35-36**, these claims are allowed as being dependent from allowed independent claim 1.

With regard to independent **Claim 11**, the closest prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, "a plurality of cameras for creating a manipulated image, the plurality of cameras including: (a) a primary camera, comprising: (i) image capture means configured to capture a real image as a primary captured image; (ii) image manipulation means configured to manipulate the primary captured image to form a primary manipulated image; (iii) image providing means configured to receive the primary manipulated image from the image manipulation means and provide the primary manipulated image to a secondary camera; and (b) a secondary camera, comprising: (i) image capture means configured to capture a real image as a secondary captured image; (ii) image receiving means configured to receive the primary manipulated image from the image providing means of the primary camera; and (iii) image manipulation means configured to receive the primary manipulated image from the image receiving means and manipulate the primary manipulated image to form a secondary manipulated image; wherein the primary and secondary cameras each comprises a storage-device reader configured to read image-manipulation instructions stored on a manipulation-instruction storage-device; and wherein the manipulation instruction storage device comprises a card having a surface and at least one image manipulation instruction printed on the surface in encoded form".

Regarding **Claims 12-17,19-20,22 and 37-38**, these claims are allowed as being dependent from allowed independent claim 11.

*In regard to independent **Claim 23**, the closest prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, "a method for forming a manipulated image comprising the steps of: (a) providing a primary camera, the primary camera comprising: (i) image capture means; (ii) image manipulation means; and (iii) image providing means; and (b) providing a secondary camera, the secondary camera comprising: (i) image capture means; (ii) image receiving means; and (iii) image manipulation means, the primary camera performing the steps of: (c) capturing a real image as a captured image using the image capture means; (d) manipulating the captured image using the image manipulation means to form a primary manipulated image; (e) providing the primary manipulated image to the secondary camera via the image providing means; and the secondary camera performing the steps of: (f) receiving the primary manipulated image from the image providing means of the primary camera via the image receiving means of the secondary camera; and (g) manipulating the primary manipulated image using the image manipulation means to form a secondary manipulated image; wherein the primary and secondary cameras each further comprise a storage-device reader configured to read image-manipulation instructions stored on a manipulation-instruction storage-device; and wherein the manipulation instruction storage*

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device comprises a card having a surface, upon which is printed at least one image manipulation instruction in encoded form".

Regarding **Claims 24-29,31-32,34 and 39-40**, these claims are allowed as being dependent from allowed independent claim 23.

The following are the closest references found:

Oie (US Patent No.: 6188431B1) discloses the communication terminal of one electronic still camera that is connected to that of the other electronic still camera by means of a specific cable or infrared rays. The image data item to be transferred is selected from the image data items stored in the flash memory in the electronic still camera on the transmission side and the image data is displayed on the LCD. After determining the image data by pressing the shutter key in the key input section of one electronic still camera functioning as the master, the user specifies transmission or reception. The camera whose shutter has been pressed functions as a master and the other camera functions as a slave. In transmission, all or a given one of the image data items in the flash memory are transmitted to the slave camera. In reception, the image data is transmitted from the slave camera to the master camera. The received image data is stored in the flash memory via a DRAM.

Steinberg et al. (US Patent No.: 6006039) disclose a camera having a built in microprocessor for accepting configuration data from an external device. The camera has a serial port, and a slot for receiving standard type II and III PCMCIA cards for data

input and output. These features provide the camera with the capability of being programmed by an external device, including downloading configuration data including a particular operating system, custom modules, graphics and textual data, and data base information and operational parameters. The configuration data can also be downloaded from one camera to another.

Katayama et al. (US Patent No.: 6141036) disclose an image recording and reproducing apparatus that includes a recording processing unit for receiving video signals in at least two different modes, and for recording the received video signals together with mode signals indicating the mode of the video signals. A signal-reading unit reads a video signal and the corresponding mode signal recorded by the recording processing unit, and a detecting unit detects the mode of the video signal from the mode signal read by the signal-reading unit. A generation unit generates a signal based on the video signal in accordance with the detected mode of the video signal such that the generated signal has a format that corresponds to the mode of the video signal.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pritham Prabhakher whose telephone number is 571-270-1128. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-5:00) Alt Friday's Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571)272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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